

as it should be

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by [Sienne](#)

Summary

Post-canon Lan Qiren time travels to before the Cloud Recesses lectures. The Cloud Recesses are quiet and peaceful, something his home hasn't been in years.

...In fact, it is too quiet and peaceful.

Notes

to all the bunnies over at Bunny Central, but especially to our resident Headshaker, without whom this abomination would not happen.

Some way or another, post-canon Lan Qiren time travels to before the Cloud Recesses lectures. The Cloud Recesses are quiet and peaceful, something his home hasn't been in years.

...In fact, it is too quiet and peaceful.

He decides to do his lonely younger nephew a favor (and himself, but that part he won't admit to) and gift him his future husband early. It does not matter that they have not met yet - he knows how their story goes, and if he can save Wangji over a decade of suffering, then by gods he will do it. If Lan Qiren himself gets a very inventive, engaging and intelligent research partner cum nephew-in-law earlier, all the better.

If he gets a grandchild early, or - heavens, what joy it would be! - *a few* grandchildren, then he will not complain, certainly. So he informs those who need to know that he will be unavailable for a day or two - he does not foresee any complications that would warrant a longer absence - and leaves for Lotus Pier.

He arrives within a few hours to a warm if surprised welcome by the Jiang Sect Leader. The Madam is thankfully absent, having left two days earlier on some nighthunt or other. No matter; the less he sees of her, the better, and it is certainly not a matter that concerns *her*. During the light conversation with the sect leader he suggests that since he is already there, he would like to see the Jiang disciples train; supposedly to measure their level to be able to better adjust his teaching, as the lectures are scheduled to happen in the next few months.

He's never done any such thing before - indeed, it is simply a pretense. Jiang Fengmian is confounded but as always willing to accommodate and leads Lan Qiren to the training grounds. There, he is met with a cacophony only a gaggle of teenagers can produce. He searches and finds whom he needs shortly - right in the middle, the loudest of them all - Wei Wuxian.

Suddenly, Lan Qiren feels stumped. He has found Wei Wuxian, but certainly there are too many witnesses. While he may be fast enough for any of the young disciples, Jiang Fengmian is right beside him. He needs him gone, but how?

Fate must agree with him that Wei Wuxian will be better off living - *thriving* - in the Lan Clan, as at that very moment one of the littlest disciples trips over a leg of a fellow disciple, who has been laying on the pier, and falls into the lake. Thankfully he surfaces easily, but as he is helped back on land it is clear that he must have sprained his ankle. The poor disciple starts crying, stretching his arms towards the safest figure there - Jiang Fengmian.

The Sect Leader apologizes profusely - Lan Qiren claims it is no trouble just as profusely - and leaves with the child in his arms in the direction of what must be the healing pavilion.

The Jiang Sect Leader is gone. The young disciples are in disarray, concerned over their younger shidi. Wei Wuxian looks worriedly in the direction Jiang Fengmian and the unlucky disciple left to. *This is Lan Qiren's chance.*

He draws close to Wei Wuxian in quick strides and draws his sword before the Head Disciple can do more than open his eyes wide in surprise. Two seconds after, Lan Qiren is in the air, moving fast towards Cloud Recesses with a wriggling and shouting Wei Wuxian under one arm. It seems

the disciple has concerns over the situation - as he should, being kidnapped is not something to dismiss easily.

It is of no consequence - they are high up in the sky and moving quickly. If Wei Wuxian does not want to fall down, he will have to stop squirming, and then Lan Qiren will be able to speak his (or rather his as of yet unknowing nephew's) suit. The trip back home will take a few hours; Lan Qiren is sure that will be enough time to bring Wei Wuxian over, or at least to intrigue him enough to stay a few hours in Cloud Recesses.

That will be long enough time for him to meet Wangji. And since Wangji himself will certainly fall in love with Wuxian at first sight, Lan Qiren is content to leave his nephew to woo his future husband until Jiang Fengmian arrives. By that time Wei Wuxian will surely be too smitten with Wangji to just leave. It will give Lan Qiren a reason to set a betrothal between them. They only need to wait a few months before Wuxian turns fifteen, and then they will get married as soon as can be arranged.

As the boy in his arm stops wriggling quite so much, looking resigned to his fate if somewhat pouty, Lan Qiren contemplates his near future.

Within a year, Wei Wuxian will be married into the Lan Clan, living happily with Wangji in the Jingshi, and Cloud Recesses will once again be filled with melodious laughter and warm, loving looks.

As it should be.



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